



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1921

<i>The Significance of Radium:</i> PROFESSOR R. A. MILLIKAN.....	1
<i>Lincoln Ware Riddle</i> .....	9
<i>Scientific Events:—</i>	
<i>The Printers' Strike and SCIENCE; Grant for the Study of Stellar Parallaxes; Honorary Degrees conferred by Yale University; Honorary Degrees at Harvard University..</i>	9
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....	11
<i>University and Educational News</i> .....	12
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>Use of the Terms "Erosion," "Denudation," "Corrasion" and "Corrosion":</i> DR. FREDERIC H. LAHEE. <i>The Breeding Habits of Ambystoma tigrinum:</i> RALPH J. GILMORE. <i>A Phenomenal Shoot:</i> B. W. WELLS. <i>The Aurora of May 14:</i> DR. A. E. DOUGLASS. <i>The Aurora seen from Sinaloa, Mexico, in Latitude 27° N.:</i> J. GARY LINDLEY.	13
<i>Quotations:—</i>	
<i>The Mount Everest Expedition</i> .....	14
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>An Outline for Vascular Plants:</i> PROFESSOR HENRY S. CONARD.....	15
<i>The American Chemical Society:</i> DR. CHARLES L. PARSONS .....	16

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF RADIUM<sup>1</sup>

WE are met to-night to honor a discovery and the discoverer, and we are doing it in a way which I am sure delights her soul as much as it does mine. The custom of mankind, when it would do honor to one who has had the good fortune to be of service to his fellows, is to make a hundred thousand dollar parade, or to fire a hundred thousand dollar salute, or, in rarer instances of sounder judgment, to build a hundred thousand dollar monument. Compare that sort of an expenditure of the fruits of human toil with the glad donation which you are making to-night of a hundred thousand dollars, not merely for the alleviation of suffering and the arrest of disease—that is important—but for something which is vastly more important and more fundamental than that, namely, for the purpose of making it possible to peer farther into the secrets of matter, for upon that vision and the control of nature which that vision must precede depends the weal or woe of our children and our children's children for countless generations.

I wish to add a second element of uniqueness to this occasion. Knowing Madame Curie, as I have had the good fortune to do, I am sure that she would not wish me to speak a word of fulsome praise or to picture her as a superman; she is that because she is a woman, but not because she has had the capacity and the good fortune to make discoveries of the first importance. It is a common and a pathetic spectacle to see military, political, and social leaders who come conspicuously into the public gaze, lose their sense of perspective and begin to regard themselves as holding a commission from the Al-

<sup>1</sup> An address delivered at the National Museum, Washington, D. C., on the evening of May 25, in connection with the presentation of a gram of radium to Madame Curie.